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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/934,943	08/22/2001	Thomas W. Obrock	1-15090	8876

1678 7590 11/05/2002

MARSHALL & MELHORN
FOUR SEAGATE, EIGHT FLOOR
TOLEDO, OH 43604

EXAMINER

ANDERSON, GERALD A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3637

DATE MAILED: 11/05/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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DATE MAILED:

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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

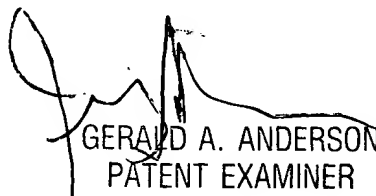
Applicant's election without traverse of Group I in Paper No. 7 is acknowledged. The applicant has elected Figures 1-15, 20-22, 26, 27 and 34 which include multiple species of the invention.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. This is done by electing a **single** Figure that best represents the preferred embodiment and the claims that read on the elected Figure.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.


GERALD A. ANDERSON
PATENT EXAMINER